

Mrs. Dickerson Retires



Mrs. Ira T. Dickerson, who last week retired as president of the Princeton YWCA. Mrs. Dickerson, the second colored woman in the country to serve as president of an interracial YWCA, has been active in YWCA work for 25 years. A former school teacher, she is a graduate of Delaware State College and Rutgers University of New Jersey.

Wheatley YW Board Elected

ATLANTA—Mrs. Eva B. Parks was recently installed as chairman of the board of management of the Phyllis Wheatley YWCA.

Elected for six-year terms to the board were Mesdames Clara Reynolds, Ruby Weaver Baker, James P. Brawley, Alice Holmes Washington, T. H. George, Harry V. Richardson and Roberta S. Harper.

Those re-elected for three-year terms were Mesdames C. L. Harper and E. A. Fountain and Miss Madeline Graves. Others on the board are Miss Anna Saddle, Miss Joan Hollis, Mesdames Farris Miller, J. S. Flipper, J. E. Garnett and Mrs. J. B. Prather.

Three Grants Honor Negro Achievements

NEW YORK — (ANP) — Three national scholarships honoring Negro achievement were among twenty-four scholarships approved last week by the national board of the Young Women's Christian Association at its semi-annual meeting.

Negroes honored in these awards were Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, educator and women's leader. Money for this award was raised by a special committee. Mrs. Lisle Carter of the board announced it.

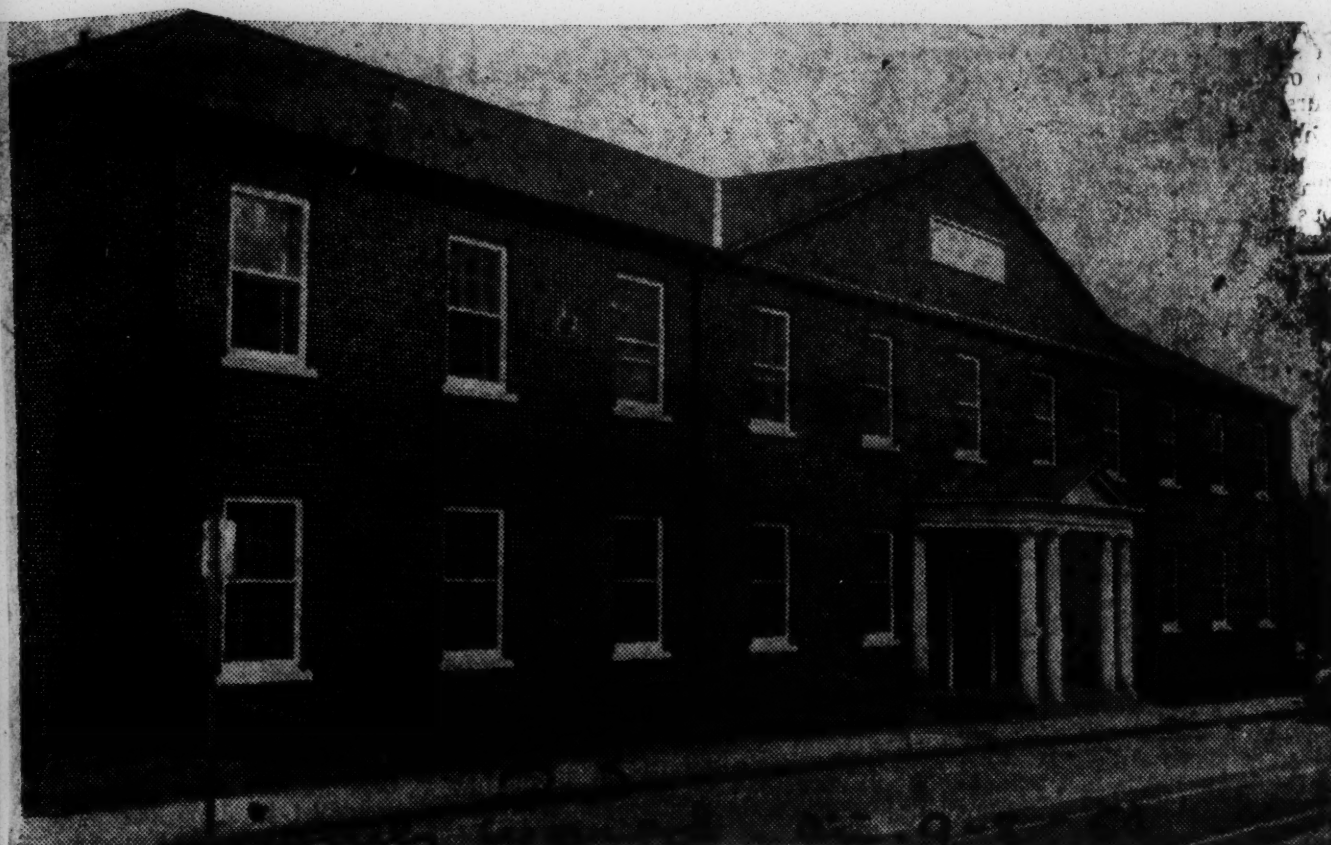
Mrs. Cordelia Winn, for many years a member of the national board staff; Miss Mamie Davis of the national field staff of the YWCA announced it.

Delta Sigma Theta, a national sorority, Miss Dorothy Height, national president of the Deltas and also a member of the national board, announced this award.

She said the sorority pledged itself to provide a full award on the basis that women of all races should be prepared to share in new opportunities and responsibilities as more doors are opened on a basis of equality.

A total of sixty board members attending this meeting reported that \$60,000 of a goal of \$100,000 had been collected for the twenty-four scholarships. This program provides more training for staff members to maintain and strengthen a corp of qualified staff leaders. Mrs. Kendall Emerson is chairman of the national scholarship fund committee.

Among other well-known women honored by the YWCA through these scholarships are Mrs. Robert E. Speer, former president of the board; Mrs. John H. Finley, member of the board, and the late Dr. Emily Hickman, former professor of history of the New Jersey College for Women.



NEW PHYLLIS WHEATLEY BRANCH YWCA — This imposing structure, new home of the Phyllis Wheatley Branch YWCA, 599 Tatnall Street, S. W., will be officially opened for inspection, Sunday, September 17. Included in the edifice are offices for the staff members, dormitory

space for regular and transient guests, a gymnasium-auditorium, health education department, complete except for swimming pool, club and conference rooms, and a modern dining room. — (Photo by Lowe)

YWCA Plans "Open House" Ceremonies Sept. 17th

The Phyllis Wheatley Branch of the Young Women's Christian Association, will hold open house at the recently completed, all modern building, 599 Tatnall Street, S. W., on Sunday, September 17. Mrs. A. Louise Taylor, executive director announced.

The long awaited building, constructed and equipped at a cost of nearly \$147,000, contains everything needed for the operation of the Y. W. C. A. program, with the possible exception of a swimming pool. A swimming pool and a third floor for dormitory use, are additions to be made, Mrs. Taylor added.

Important among services offered at the new building, will be a dining room where three meals daily will be available. This dining room has a seating capacity of 80, while in the combination gymnasium-auditorium with mass meeting seating

capacity of 900, banquet service will be available for 500. A modern Y-Teens and Mrs. Sadye Potter, Jr. equipped kitchen adjoins the dining Y-Teens.

OFFICE SPACE

Offices for staff members and health education department, complete except for swimming pool are also contained on the main floor. Office of the executive director, a well appointed lounge, club and conference rooms are in the South wing of the second floor, while utility room for laundering and dormitory residence assistants. Fred Clark has space for regulars and transients in the Northern wing.

Old quarters on Boulevard are being maintained as dormitory space, it was learned, the two units providing sleeping space for 50 girls.

Listed on the official staff roster, Mrs. Taylor announced are: Mrs. N. Marguerite Butler, administrative assistant and extension director; Mrs. Claire H. Jackson, business secretary; Mrs. Muszet Hall, executive

office secretary and Miss Betty Agurs, program office secretary.

Program directors include Mrs. Edith Hambrick, Business, Professional and Industrial work; Mrs. Charity Tombleston, Health Education; Miss Rosalie Raglin, activities

assistant; Mrs. Hilda D. Bell, Sr. and Mrs. Sadye Potter, Jr.

In residence and food service, Mrs. Eva Jones Phillips will serve as director at the new building with Mrs. Grace Keith as head hostess and food service assistant. Mrs. Sarah Owens is to be night matron.

Mrs. Rosa Shebee, head cook, Mrs. well appointed lounge, club and conference rooms are in the South wing of the second floor, while utility room for laundering and dormitory residence assistants. Fred Clark has space for regulars and transients in the Northern wing.

Mrs. Mayme Hubert is matron at the Boulevard Branch with Mrs. Mattie Davis as night matron at the same site.

A full program of activities is being planned for the dedication announced later.

Y. W. C. A. to Hold Fiesta Party



Three girls who will appear tomorrow night in the Grand International Fiesta party in South Parkway Y. W. C. A. select their costumes. They are (from left) Miss Barbara Morrow, 6026 South Park av.; Miss Gwendolyn Wheeler, 3854 Langley av., and Miss Helen Lacy, 4541 Forrestville av.

[Willis Photo]

Y. W. C. A. FIESTA WILL PORTRAY 'THE GAY LIFE'

The gay life as it is lived from Latin America to the sidewalk cafes of Paris will be the setting for the "Grand International Fiesta" to be presented from 8 p. m. to midnight tomorrow in South Parkway Y. W. C. A., 4559 South Park way.

Mrs. Sarah Jones, director of the business and professional programs at the "Y" said members of the Collegiate club, Nonpareil club, and Joe's and Jane's Co-ed club are staging the show to introduce their activities to the public. Clubs are competing to produce the most colorful entertainment program, Mrs. Jones said.

Nonpareil club will present a

mock cabaret party complete with cigaret girls, photographers, soft drinks, a floor show, and dancing. Spanish songs and Latin American dances by expert performers, who also will teach the steps to spectators, are planned by the Joe's and Jane's club.

The Collegiate club will present a playlet concerning young lovers in Paris. A sidewalk cafe will be the setting.

Card games and a Mexican travel movie will be among the other events. Proceeds from the party will be used to help finance future activities of the business and professional groups of the center.

New Y. W. C. A. for Negroes Is Sturdy Evidence Of Ever-Improving Relations Between Races

By DORIS LOCKERMAN

THE PHYLLIS WHEATLEY undertaken, but the Central Branch, YWCA, a hand-Tru-
some, adequate red brick struc- Trustees and Directors insisted
ture, will be dedicated this aft- wholeheartedly that the Phyllis
Wheatley structure go ahead.

ernoon at Hunter, Tatnall and In truth, their need has been
Walnut Streets, as sturdy evi- so great many have marvelled
dence of ever-improving rela- that the program could con-
tions between the races in At- tinue, let alone grow and pros-
lanta. *Jan. 9-17-58* per as it has. Using churches,
school rooms, housing projects,
private homes, the Phyllis
Wheatley group has carried on
a program so diverse it has en-
compassed activities and inter-
ests for everyone from toddlers
to grandmothers.

The ceremony will join Negro
and white leaders who have
worked patiently for 30 years
toward the culmination of this
goal, while the membership of
the colored branch surged and
burgeoned to 2,500 adults and
2,200 youngsters.

The building has risen across
the street from Morris Brown
University on a site provided
by Atlanta University at an ex-
tremely reduced price because,
said University trustees, "The
Phyllis Wheatley members
would be such good neighbors."

PENNIES ADD UP

The land was paid for with
nickels, dimes, pennies raised
by the humble efforts of de-
voted men and women, who
served suppers, sold cakes, plan-
ned amateur home talent pro-
grams, promoted baby contests
and sacrificed small savings to
add to the tiny cache of "build-
ing funds" until they totalled
the grand sum of \$2,500.

The building completed this
week cost \$170,000, much of
which was raised by the Ne-
groes themselves in 1945 when
the Central Branch of the
YWCA undertook a building
fund campaign with one-third
pledged to the colored branch.
Never before in their history
had the Atlanta Negro com-
munity collected so much money
for any cause.

Significantly, the Phyllis
Wheatley branch has been built
and completed before the bids
have even been received for the
Central Branch, which will be
built as soon as possible.

It has been noted that the
Negro leaders themselves did
not wish to push their building
until the main branch could be

IT NEVER CLOSES

No space has been available
for health education, which
eliminated many possibilities for
service, but the new building
takes care of that, too. There is
a clubroom, a classroom, a din-
ing room, a well-equipped
kitchen, dormitory space for 20
girls, and a regulation gymna-
sium with showers and dressing
rooms, which will considerably
enlarge the branch's opportuni-
ties for service.

The Phyllis Wheatley branch
never closes. It operates on a
24-hour schedule, ringing with
voices and alive with activity
from morning till night.

It is, there is no doubt, one
of the major forces for good in
the Atlanta community and a
step we can all view with pride.

Ground Broken For \$147,000 Atlanta YWCA

ATLANTA—(ANP) — A group of 500 citizens braved foggy and murky weather last week to see Mrs. George A. Towns break ground for a new \$147,000 home for the Phyllis Wheatley branch of the YWCA.

This ground-breaking program climaxed 10 years of effort to have the new institution built. Plans for the new home were made in 1939, funds were collected by 1944, but war time building restrictions prevented further action.

Mrs. Towns was given the honor of breaking ground because of her work as chairman of the board of managers. Little Dorothy Rose presented the axe to her.

Mrs. Flepper spoke. Speakers at the exercises included Mrs. J. S. Flipper, chairman of the board of managers; Dr. Rufus Clement, president of Atlanta University; Miss Florence M. Read, president, Spelman College; Dr. William Holmes Borders, pastor, Wheat Street Baptist Church;

Miss Irene Harris, former executive director of Phyllis Wheatley branch; Dr. James P. Brawley, of Clark College; Mrs. I. J. Phillips, president, Atlanta YMCA; Mrs. Granger Hansel, YWCA board; Ernest Brewer, Mayor William B. Hartsfield.

Dr. Harry V. Richardson, president, Gammon Theological seminary; offered invocation, Bishop Richard R. Wright offered prayer and benediction. Paul E. Brown of radio station WERD introduced the program. Music was provided by the Charlotte Wheels ensemble and quartet and the David T. Howard school band.

CHRISTIAN ACTION LACKING

YW Director Resigns; Racial Policy Blamed

NEWARK — "If we believe in democracy, we just have to live by it." This is what Mrs. Grace P. Hooks, executive director of the Jones St. Branch YWCA, said this week in connection with her resignation which will become effective April 3.

In submitting her resignation to the board of the Newark YWCA, which controls the Jones St. Branch, Mrs. Hooks said the Y does not carry out the overall interracial policy of the national body.

The board accepted Mrs. Hooks' resignation without comment, but Mrs. William Hamilton Osborne, president, indicated she was surprised.

She said she was aware of no trouble anywhere within the organization.

While Mrs. Hooks did not go into details, she explained she just could not go along with policies on interracial matters as laid down by the trustees. She said she did not feel there was an open policy adding: "It is time for us to be as democratic as we say we are."

Mrs. Hooks, who has been in Y work since 1938, made it clear she was not interested in the local YWCA setup. She declared: "It is that I would not be content under present circumstances and feel it is better to get out. But now that I have resigned, I want to drop the whole matter."

7 Other Resignations Cited

Her resignation came under similar circumstances to those of Miss E. Estelle Thomas who resigned a year ago, along with the assistant director, and six other staff workers.

The seven staff workers had resigned following dismissal of Miss Filomena Mare, head of the nationality communities department.

Although the board of trustees claimed Miss Mare's dismissal was for financial reasons, the New Jersey Chapter, American Association of Social Workers, following an extensive investigation, reported there was the probability of other reasons.

Welfare Group Tagged
The chapter hinted that the YWCA's policy was being in-

ALICE IN SWITZERLAND:

Y Director Stumbles Up Her 1st Mountain

At last Alice arrived in Basel to be met at the station by a delegation of YWCA folk headed by the Secretary of the French-speaking YWCA groups of the canton of Vaud.

Alice felt very good because she had never been met by a delegation before. She spent the night at the home of a former member of the national committee of the YWCA of Switzerland.

Basel is a beautiful, clean city in the German speaking part of Switzerland.

No Waste of Soil Here

The next day at 9 a.m. Alice took the train to Lausanne to the YWCA residence there. The trip from Bale took only a few hours, but it gave an opportunity to see the beautiful country.

One is impressed by the beautiful flowers everywhere, by the almost complete utilization of the soil.

The YWCA residence is a beautiful old mansion, and Alice had a room overlooking Lake Geneva and the French Alps. As far as the eyes could see, there was nothing but mountains and mountains covered with snow.

Lake Geneva, is the largest lake in Europe.

Girls the Same Everywhere

The girls in the residence are from 16 to 25. They are either students or employed girls; and like girls everywhere they are lively and full of fun. The residence is in charge of a director and all phases of programs are offered there.

The food in Switzerland is especially good and there is plenty of it. After breakfast, there is dinner in the middle of the day. Then there is tea at four and supper at seven.

Camping at Castle

Saturday and Sunday was spent at a week-end camp for teen-age girls. In Switzerland the teen-age girls in the YWCA are called cadets. The group used an old castle, Chateau de Monteret situated in St. Cergue.

The castle was recently purchased by a church group and is used for camping the year round. It overlooks Lake Geneva on a

high mountain and directly opposite is the great Mont Blanc, the highest mountain in Europe, majestic in its great height, drawing everything around it.

Falling up Mountain

Alice did her first bit of mountain climbing on Saturday. So far, so good, even though she fell up the mountain.

A great deal was crowded into the camp week ends, and it was lots of fun. It could have been a group of teen-agers anywhere—singing, laughing, playing pranks, not wanting to go to bed.

Saturday they arrived in camp at 4 p.m., after hiking part of the way, and had tea.

Up at 6:45 for Breakfast

The camp was formally opened; supper out of doors; a camp fire up on a hill at which time the girls gave a program. Sunday, breakfast at 6:45, church in the village of St. Cergue at 9, sports program, picnic lunch and hike home.

The village of St. Cergue is known for its winter sports and one could see the ski trails and the cars that take people up.

Late afternoon found Alice on the way to Geneva.

\$400,000 Contract Let For New "Y"

Matthews Makes Plea To
Delinquent Pledgees

The board of management of the Community Branch Y. M. C. A. and the Y. W. C. A. directors of the Central Y were jubilant Wednesday when the contract was let for the new structure to be built in the 600-block East 4th street for the Negro citizens of the poorer capital.

"The added cost of the new structure resulting from the spiraling of building costs, makes it imperative that those who are behind with their pledge money should immediately meet their obligations," said executive secretary Meridith Matthews Thursday.

Increased cost of materials the central board had to obligate itself for \$100,000 more than provided in the plans and specifications when the Community Branch building was planned. The bid of the Lippert Brothers was \$426,122.00. According to Parr and Aderhold, architects, who will work directly with the contractors, construction work will begin in about 15 days and the structure rushed on to completion.

Milwaukee Negro YWCA Staff Quits

When 'Lily-White' Program Starts

MILWAUKEE — It was learned here this week that a strong disagreement over the planning of an integrated program for the Young Women's Christian Association is the real reason for the Negro professional staff resigning from the Milwaukee Association.

Effectuated by the decisions of the all-white personnel committee are executive director of the Walnut Street Center, Mrs. Bernice Copeland Lindsey, who has held the position for 20 years; Mrs. Nana Reed Baker, Y-teen director of the center for 7 years, and Miss Jean Hopkins, a University of Wisconsin graduate who came to the center Feb. 1.

Mrs. Lindsey, who is an Ohio State university graduate and served in YMCA work in Columbus and Indianapolis before coming to Milwaukee, developed the work of the department in the downtown Alhambra building center of the Association. During the depression years the Association was forced to give up these quarters and the work was moved to a very small office at 7th and Cherry streets.

Worked Under Handicaps

In an effort to carry out the program, Mrs. Lindsey alone worked a 60 and 70-hour week in rented halls, churches and social centers until the branch was moved to the YWCA Cottage on 10th st.

It was here that the services of Mrs. Baker were acquired as director of the teen-age program.

Then with the coming of World War II, both the 'colored branches of the YWCA and YMCA were moved to 734 W. Walnut st., in the 65-year-old Liberty Hall. The Milwaukee School Board, which owned the building, donated it to the two associations and the USO center.

Work Centralized

On April 10 of this year the Walnut center program was moved to Central YWCA building, 610 N. Jackson st., which resulted in 80 per cent cut in participation of Negro clientele.

It was learned that Negro citizens in Milwaukee have absolutely no voice in the proposal of a new Northside YMCA and YWCA branch although they live mostly in this district. Up until this time it was believed that white members of the two associations were going to be governed by the Interracial Charter adopted by the National YW- and YMCA and reaffirmed at the 1949 triennial convention in San Francisco.

It is charged that the all-white management is against upgrading Negro personnel according to Mrs. Lindsey's 23-year record during which time she never received the maximum salary, and white staff workers with much less educational backgrounds are reported to have been advanced to the maximum several years ago.

Commenting on the fact that the all-white management committee asked for her resignation, Mrs. Baker's and Miss Hopkins, Mrs. Lindsey told the Defender: "In the Milwaukee Association, the all-powerful trustee board, the executive board of directors and the finance committee made the final decision of the kind of building for the new Northside YWCA, the cost, location and an all-white membership. When a Negro board member brought her thinking and that of the Negro staff which called into question some of these decisions, the all-white personnel committee asked for the resignation of the staff without charge of any kind and without consultation with any of the Interracial Committee or Negro constituents."



EN ROUTE TO GIRL SCOUT ENCAMPMENT.— Canadian and Haitian Girl Scouts on the S. S. Georgia, this week, bound for the international encampment in Adelboden, Switzerland. USA Scouts joined the Canadian and Haitian Scouts on the S. S. Georgia. The encampment

at Adelboden, which is sponsored by the Girl Scouts of the USA, will bring together teenage Scouts and Guides from Brazil, Canada, Denmark, France, Haiti, Norway, Pakistan, South Africa, Suomi-Finland and the USA.